



July 29, 2005

Senate Hispanic Briefing Room

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Office of Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist, M.D.

THE 109TH CONGRESS

CREATING JOBS AND DELIVERING ON AMERICA'S PRIORITIES

ECONOMY/JOBS:

Central American Free Trade Agreement
Highway Bill Conference Report*
Bankruptcy Reform Bill
Class Action Reform Bill
5th Fastest Budget in Senate history

ENERGY SECURITY:

Energy Bill Conference Report*
Energy & Water Appropriations Bill

HEALTH CARE:

Patient Safety & Quality Improvement Act
Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act

WAR ON TERROR:

Emergency War Supplemental and Tsunami Relief Act
Homeland Security Appropriations Bill

JUSTICE:

Confirmed 6 judges and broke the unprecedented use of
filibusters against judicial nominees

APPROPRIATIONS:

Legislative Appropriations Bill
Interior Appropriations Bill*
Foreign Operations Appropriations Bill
**Including Homeland Security and Energy & Water (listed
above), the Senate has passed 5 spending bills

OTHER:

Protection of Lawful Commerce in Arms Act*

S. Res. 193: A resolution expressing sympathy for the people of the United Kingdom in the aftermath of the deadly terrorist attacks on London on July 7, 2005.

Confirmation of Lester M. Crawford, of Maryland, to be Commissioner of Food and Drugs

H.J.Res 52: A joint resolution approving the renewal of import restrictions contained in the Burmese Freedom and Democracy Act of 2003

Confirmation of the Nomination of Thomas C. Dorr, of Iowa, to be Under Secretary of Agriculture for Rural Development

S. Res. 207: A resolution recognizing and honoring the 15th anniversary of the enactment of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990.

WEEKLY NEWS

FRIST PRAISES SENATE PASSAGE OF "SUPPORT OUR SCOUTS ACT OF 2005"

*Frist-sponsored legislation approved as amendment to
DoD Authorization Bill*

WASHINGTON, D.C. – U.S. Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist, M.D. (R-TN) today praised Senate passage of the "Support Our Scouts Act of 2005" as an amendment to the Department of Defense authorization bill. The amendment, which Frist authored, ensures that the Boy Scouts of America are treated fairly by guaranteeing their right to equal access to public facilities, forums, and programs. The amendment also helps ensure that the Defense Department will continue its support of Scout Jamborees, and makes clear that the Congress views the Scouts as a "youth organization." Frist made the following statement upon passage:

"This amendment protects a unique American tradition that teaches our youth the importance of honesty, integrity and character. It enables the Scouts to continue their public service without the distraction of senseless legal and political attacks. I'm proud that my colleagues from both sides of the aisle chose to uphold the Boy Scouts' fundamental right of fair and equal access to public facilities. Now, more than ever, our nation needs young leaders who understand that content of character counts, and I'm pleased to know this integral scouting tradition will be protected as they continue their noble efforts to mold the hearts and minds of the next generation of America's leaders."

The "Supports Our Scouts Act of 2005" amendment addresses attempts to exclude the Boy Scouts from such facilities at the federal, state, and local levels, and legal moves by groups to proscribe longstanding Defense Department support to the Scouts, especially at their Jamborees.

The "Support Our Scouts Act of 2005" guarantees the Boy Scouts' right to equal access in a number of ways. The legislation removes any doubt that Federal agencies may welcome Scouts to hold meetings and go camping on federal property. It ensures the Defense Department can continue providing support consistent with existing U.S. law. The legislation also ensures state or local government entities do not deny Boy Scouts equal access to public facilities, programs, or forums by making clear that the Congress considers the Scouts a "youth organization." Finally, the act clarifies that federal agencies cannot provide less support to the Scouts than the agency has in the past, except under certain special circumstances.



Join The Frist Senate Hispanic Leadership Team

We need individuals like you to help us get the message out. Please e-mail me at noe_garcia@frist.senate.gov if you are ready to join the FRIST TEAM.